

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/08043

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 5/02

US CL : 600/526

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 600/526,300-301,309,311,322-327

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y --- A	US 5,651,767 A (SCHULMAN et al.) 29 July 1997 (29/07.1997) Figures 1-6.	8, 10, 11, 13 ----- 1-7, 9, 12, 14, and 15
Y --- A	US 4,221,567 A (CLARK et al.) 9 September 1980 (09.09.1980), Figures 1 and 2.	8, 10, 11, and 13 ----- 1-7, 9, 12, 14, and 15
Y --- A	US 4,015,600 A (LIAUTAUD) 5 April 1977 (05.04.1977) Figures 1 and 2.	10 ----- 1-7, 9, 12, 14, and 15
A	US 5,928,155 A (EGGERS et al.) 27 July 1999 (27.07.1999) entire document	1-15
A	US 3,905,888 A (MINDT et al.) 16 September 1975 (16.09.1975) entire document	1-15
A	US 4,919,141 A (ZIER et al.) 24 April 1990 (24.04.1990) entire document.	1-15

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 July 2003 (28.07.2003)

Date of mailing of the international search report

28 NOV 2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (703)305-3230

Authorized officer

Max F. Hindenburg

Telephone No. (703) 308-0858

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US03/08043

C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,322,063A (ALLEN et al.) 21 June 1994 (21.06.1994) entire document.	1-15
A	US 5,409,666 A (NAGEL et al.) 25 April 1995 (25.04.1995) entire document.	1-15
A	US 6,064,900 A (VAGDAMA et al.) 16 May 2000 (16.05.2000) entire document	1-15
A	US 5,971,934 A (EGGERS) 04 August 1998 (04.08.1998) entire document	1-15
A	US 4,819,655 A (WEBLER) 11 April 1989 (11.04.1989) entire document	1-15
A	US 5,944,695 A (JOHNSON et al.) 31 August 1999 (31.08.1999) entire document	1-15